

4.2.3 Physical Environment

4.2.3.1 Noise

Construction of any of the Detailed Study Alternatives is not anticipated to induce additional vehicle trips to or through the project area.

4.2.3.2 Air Quality

Construction of any of the Detailed Study Alternatives is not anticipated to induce additional vehicle trips to or through the project area. No indirect effects to air quality are expected to result from the project. Cumulatively, multiple new residential developments are under construction or planned within the project area. This will lead to increased traffic volumes; however, the rural nature of the area and distance to an urban center suggest air quality conformance will not become an issue in the foreseeable future.

4.2.3.3 Managed Lands

4.2.3.3.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers

There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers in the study area; no cumulative or indirect effects to Wild and Scenic Rivers are anticipated.

4.2.3.3.2 State / National Forests

Sections of the Detailed Study Alternatives in Segments 2 and 3 will require strip takings along the western boundary of the Croatan National Forest. Because the takings are limited to a narrow strip along the existing right-of-way and the forest lands are protected for further development, no additional cumulative or indirect effects to protected state or national forests are anticipated.

4.2.3.3.3 Gamelands and Preservation Areas

Aside from the spring flowering goldenrod community in Segment 3 (a direct impact), no indirect or cumulative effects to gamelands or preservation areas are anticipated.